

child support is paid. We believe the future of the children of this country requires welfare reform.

It is very unfortunate that the President has failed to sign the waiver for Wisconsin. I call on President Clinton today to keep his word to the Governors and to sign the Wisconsin welfare waivers and allow the people of Wisconsin to reform welfare.

WASHINGTON POST OWES APOLOGY TO UNITED STATES CITIZENS OF CUBAN DESCENT

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my outrage with yesterday's Washington Post editorial entitled "Cuba—The Poisonous title III" that refers to United States citizens as the "Miami Cubans." I have never seen the Post refer to New York Jews or the Boston Irish or the Chicago Polish community. No, this second class citizenship status by the Washington Post is preserved just for the Miami Cubans. As an American of Cuban descent, not from Miami, I think it is despicable.

Finally, title III of the Helms-Burton legislation is that part of the bill that stands up for U.S. citizens. Let us review the facts. The property of American citizens and businesses were illegally confiscated between 1959 and 1960. Those businesses were never compensated by the Cuban regime for their losses.

Title III does not prohibit investment by any nation in Cuba unless they do it in the stolen property of American citizens and companies. So there we have it. If you do not knowingly and intentionally invest in stolen property, you have no reason to be concerned about this bill.

I hope the Post gets its facts straight. It owes an apology to the Americans of Cuban descent.

MAKE HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE FOR AMERICANS

(Mr. NEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Congress is ready to pass bipartisan legislation that will make health care insurance more available and affordable for millions of American families without big government. It is called private sector health care reform.

However, over the last 11 weeks someone in the other body has been holding health care reform hostage, refusing to allow the legislation to proceed by using complicated procedural gimmicks. This common sense health care reform is being stonewalled, Mr. Speaker, because of the dream that still exists of imposing a single player, Government-run health care system on the entire Nation.

I think that a couple of years ago the people in this country spoke out very loud and clear that they do not want a Government-run system, but they want access, they want availability, and they want affordability for health care. Today many Americans are forced to stay in their current jobs out of fear of losing their health care benefits and insurance. Others just live in fear of losing health care coverage should they lose their job.

This bipartisan legislation would make sure Americans who lose their coverage can keep their jobs their health care, and take care of their families. I urge the movement of the bill.

EDUCATION SHOULD BE PLACED AT TOP OF NATION'S PRIORITY BUDGET LIST

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, in the spending bill that is coming to the floor this morning, the Republicans are once again proposing harmful education cuts, and, fortunately, the President has once again promised to veto any bill the Republicans send him that does not include reasonable levels of education funding.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that education should be placed at the top of our Nation's budget priorities. We should be heading in a direction completely opposite from where the Republicans are going, especially at a time when enrollment in our Nation's schools is rapidly expanding.

A failure to increase funding for education is a failure to invest in our children's future. I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle: Give up this quest to gut our education system. The Republicans tried it last year, they are trying it again this year, and it should not be done. Education needs to be a priority when we deal with this budget.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House, that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

WHO HIRED CRAIG LIVINGSTONE?

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I thought of a good way to find out who hired Craig Livingstone. Livingstone, as my colleagues will remember, is the Gore campaign political operative who went to work in the White House and proceeded to illegally review the FBI files of private American citizens.

When asked by the congressional committee who hired him, Craig Livingstone said, "I do not know." Now, the taxpayers are going to have to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars trying to find out who hired Mr. Livingstone.

I have got a cheap alternative. Let us ask Eleanor Roosevelt. All right, everybody, light your candles: Eleanor, Eleanor. It is not working. Maybe one of the Democrats can tell me what I am doing wrong.

The fact is we can save the taxpayers thousands of dollars if Mr. Livingstone would just tell the truth.

AMERICA NEEDS A RAISE

(Mr. VENTO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I will not get into a seance with my friend from Georgia, but some good news that did come through from the Senate this week was the passage of the minimum wage bill.

That is right, in spite of the Republican leadership's concerted effort in the House and Senate to set the agenda and to add a poison pill to the minimum wage, the American public's will is being reflected in the other body and in this House.

Unfortunately, the antics and tricks to try and stop the minimum wage, the 90-cent increase for those that are making \$4.25 an hour today, is still in motion. They are threatening, in fact, to tie it up and hold it to other bills, to in fact try and put in place tax breaks that will dig the deficit hole deeper in this country and deny low-income workers, mostly, I might say, adults, and very often, too often, women, the opportunity to get a fair wage, a living wage.

Mr. Speaker, America needs a raise, and they need this Congress to respond fair and equitably. At the same time we are cutting all the social programs, we have to let people earn their way and get a fair wage in our economy.

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ANOTHER BROKEN WELFARE PROMISE

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, it has been 31 days now since President Clinton promised to take action on Wisconsin's welfare waiver request.

Thirty-one days—no action.

Another welfare promise by Bill Clinton will most likely fall by the wayside. In the meantime, millions of Americans are caught in an endless cycle of dependency and poverty.

On May 18 this year, Bill Clinton held up the Wisconsin plan as a model of good welfare reform. Let me just quote from his radio address that day: